Thereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner For Paurits, addressed to the attention of Mail Stop Issue Fee at (703) 746-4000 on Thereby 2004.

Taramie B. McFarland

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Art Unit: 2874

| Serial No.: 10/036,027 | Notice of Filed: December 26, 2001 | Allowance Dated: March 27, 2004

Title: Fiber Optic Cable Having a Ripcord | Confirmation No.: 2444

ok to enter

Sir:

Formul matter only

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

8/17/04

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 and subject to the recommendation of the Examiner and the approval of the Commissioner, and without withdrawing the case from issue, kindly enter the following amendment to claim 23. The amendment to claim 23 merely improves the readability of claim 23 and does not change the scope or meaning of the claim.